

## Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

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EB-07 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00

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DRAFTED BY EUR/SOV:MTDIXON:BG

APPROVED BY EUR:JAARMITAGE

EUR/SOV - WEDGAR

EB/AN - JCOOK (SUBS)

CAB - MR. RODRIGUEZ (INFO)

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 261140

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAIR, US, UR

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: BILATERAL TALKS AND CHARTER FLIGHTS

REF: (A) STATE 249114 (B) STATE 257974 (C) STATE 254042

1. SOVIET MINISTER COUNSELOR VASEV, NOVEMBER 3, CALLED ON DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY ARMITAGE TO INFORM DEPARTMENT OF SOVIET DECISION CONCERNING U.S. PROPOSAL FOR A CREDIT OF 20 CHARTER FLIGHTS AFTER MARCH 31, 1976 IN EXCHANGE FOR SOVIET APPROVAL OF WORLD AIRWAYS 1976 SUMMER PROGRAM (REFTEL A). VASEV READ AND LEFT NON-PAPERINFORMAL TRANSLATION OF WHICH FOLLOWS:

BEGIN TEXT. THE AGREEMENT IN FORCE CONCERNING CHARTER FLIGHTS BETWEEN THE USSR AND THE USA ON THE BASIS OF WHICH AEROFLOT AND AMERICAN AIRLINES MAKE CHARTER FLIGHTS AT THE PRESENT TIME IS AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE GENERAL  
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AGREEMENT ON AVIATION RELATIONS CONCLUDED IN JUNE OF 1973.

THE SOVIET SIDE THUS INTENDS TO EXAMINE THE QUESTION OF  
CHARTER FLIGHTS, NOT SEPARATING IT FROM OTHER QUESTIONS,

IN CONNECTION WITH THE FUTURE BROADENING OF SOVIET-  
AMERICAN COOPERATION IN THE AREA OF CIVIL AVIATION.

CONSEQUENTLY, SO THAT THE DECISION ON THE QUESTIONS  
RELATING TO THIS COOPERATION--AND IN THE FIRST INSTANCE  
THE QUESTION OF THE CONFIRMATION OF THE AGREEMENT REACHED  
BETWEEN AEROFLOT AND PAN AMERICAN IN THE LATEST NEGOTIA-  
TIONS IN NEW YORK--CAN BE MADE CONSTRUCTIVELY ON A  
MUTUALLY ADVANTAGEOUS AND MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE BASIS IN  
THE FORTHCOMING NEGOTIATIONS IN WASHINGTON, THE SOVIET  
SIDE CAN PROCEED ON AN EXCEPTIONAL BASIS TO CONFIRM  
THE CHARTER PROGRAM OF WORLD AIRWAYS (20 FLIGHTS),  
ALTHOUGH THESE FLIGHTS DO NOT CONFORM TO THE ABOVE  
MENTIONED AGREEMENT ON CHARTERS. IN THIS CONNECTION,  
WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE CIVIL AERONAUTICS BOARD WILL  
LIFT ITS BAN ON AEROFLOT CHARTERS UNTIL MARCH 31, 1976  
AND THAT AEROFLOT WILL BE ABLE TO CARRY OUT, AFTER  
MARCH 31, 1976, 20 CHARTER FLIGHTS, AS STATED IN THE  
OFFER BY THE AMERICAN SIDE OF OCTOBER 17, 1975.

AT THE SAME TIME, WE ACCEPT THE AGREEMENT COMMUNICATED  
BY THE AMERICAN SIDE TO THE PROPOSAL CONCERNING THE  
FREQUENCY OF REGULAR FLIGHTS DURING THE INTERIM PERIOD  
UNTIL DECEMBER 31, 1975. END TEXT.

2. ARMITAGE THANKED VASEV FOR THE POSITIVE REPLY BUT  
NOTED THAT DELAY OF SOVIET RESPONSE HAS MADE IT DIFFICULT  
TO SCHEDULE AND ADVERTISE WORLD PROGRAM AND WE MUST  
FIRST CHECK ITS FEASIBILITY WITH WORLD AIRWAYS BEFORE  
AGREEING TO CHARTER CREDIT EXCHANGE. HE ALSO CLARIFIED  
POINT THAT U.S. HAD AGREED TO SCHEDULED FLIGHT FREQUENCY  
LEVELS (REFTEL C) UNTIL MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE, ALTERNATIVE  
AGREEMENT IS REACHED DURING FORTHCOMING TALKS, OR UNTIL  
DECEMBER 31, WHICHEVER CAME FIRST. ARMITAGE THEN ASKED  
IF THE USSR DECISION TO CONSIDER CHARTER ARRANGEMENTS  
AS PART OF OVERALL CIVIL AIR AGREEMENT REPRESENTED A  
CHANGE OF SOVIET POLICY. VASEV REPLIED THAT HE WAS  
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NOT SURE BUT THAT HE WOULD TAKE NOTE OF THIS POINT AND  
CONSULT WITH PROPER AUTHORITIES.

3. DEPARTMENT HAS INFORMED WORLD AIRWAYS OF SOVIET  
DECISION AND WORLD IS PRESENTLY TRYING TO SALVAGE TOUR  
PACKAGE. WILL ADVISE EMBASSY OF OUTCOME AS SOON AS  
POSSIBLE. KISSINGER

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## Message Attributes

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